

# In the News

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Special Commemorative Edition Volume 1, Issue 18, September 11, 2002

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## IN REMEMBRANCE OF SEPTEMBER 11

### Message from the Mayor

One year ago this week, our country and our region were attacked in an unprecedented fashion by terrorists. In an equally unprecedented fashion, the citizens of the District of Columbia and our neighbors in Maryland and Virginia joined together to remember and honor the victims and to prepare for the future.

During this difficult year, we have seen the true spirit and strength that resides in our communities. We see it in the courageous and compassionate way our city has responded to this tragedy. We see it in the way our city employees work to ensure we are prepared for future catastrophes.

The District is and will continue to be an open and safe city. We have spent the last year enhancing our emergency preparedness plans, educating the public, and coping with a rapidly changing environment without compromising the civil liberties of those we serve and protect.

As we continue our hard work and preparation for the future, we must realize that the first and most important thing is to ensure that our first responders—police, fire, and emergency medical workers—have the personal protection, the equipment, and the training to do their jobs.

### Ceremonies On and Around September 11

During this time of remembrance, the members of the DC Council and I have invited citizens from across the region to come together at Freedom Plaza for a "Beam of Hope" Light Vigil at 7:15 pm to recognize those who perished on September 11. Bring your own flashlight, penlight, glow stick, or candle and join citizens from all walks of life at this brief ceremony. Also, below is a list of some events being held to commemorate September 11 in our city this month:

The week of September 7-13 is the District of Columbia's Public Safety Appreciation Week. This is an opportunity to acknowledge our appreciation for our local police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical service workers. Our residents are encouraged to express their gratitude by stopping by the station in their neighborhood to say thank you or by donating time to work on a specified project around the station.

On September 13 at 10 am, the city will lead the Memorial Tree Dedication at Kingman Island. Trees will be planted on Kingman Island to honor those who perished on September 11.

The District of Columbia Public Library and the Newseum will present "America Under Attack: September 11, 2001," a display of 30 front pages from national and international newspapers published September 12, 2001, the day after terrorist attacks in the United States. This exhibit will be on display from September 4 through 25, 2002, in the first-floor windows, which face 9th and G Streets, and inside the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library, 901 G Street, NW.

Also, visitors to the Martin Luther King Library may see a continuous showing of the video, *Loss and Recovery: Librarians Bear Witness to September 11, 2001*. Flag lapel pins will be given to individuals who check out materials at any DC public library on this day as well.

On September 11, children and youths who attend our Department of Parks and Recreation's day care programs and visit after school recreation centers will be engaged in creative expressions (prose, poetry, and visual art) reflecting on the tragedy, which will be captured in a book. This book will be published and distributed to children and parents at our recreations centers in October.

DC Public schools will observe a school-wide moment of silence and program of remembrance on September 11, 2002, from 9:40 am-10:15 am. The entire day will be devoted to teaching the value of peace, tolerance, and the elimination of racism and hatred.

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## AGENCY WEBSITES

[Office of Tax and Revenue](#)

[Department of Parks and Recreation](#)

[Department of Employment Services](#)

[Metropolitan Police Department](#)

[Office of Boards and Commissions](#)

[Commission on the Arts and Humanities](#)

[Advisory Neighborhood Commissions](#)

## Mayor's Message from Page 1

The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs will encourage employees to participate in a moment of silence on September 11. Building owners and managers of 941 and 825 North Capitol Street, NE, are planning an observance as well, to include an American flag draped over the two buildings. Our city's Office of Tax and Revenue also plans a moment of silence on September 11 for its employees.

The Department of Mental Health reminds citizens that counselors are available to help people deal with feelings arising from the anniversary of the terrorist attacks and deaths at the Brentwood Post Office from anthrax. Call 1 (888) 7-WE-HELP, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## Community Spotlight

There is no obstacle or need too great for Anacostia resident Lynda Mosley to tackle. She identifies a problem and then devises a plan to resolve it. In 1987, when five hungry children approached her for assistance, she founded a children's community Bible study class. The class not only serves to foster spiritual growth, but also provides a much-needed extended family for the neighborhood's youth. For the participants of her class, Lynda serves as a surrogate parent, providing food, clothing, transportation, and counseling. As of today, more than 900 children have participated in her Bible study class.

Lynda's service activities extend beyond the traditional duties associated with Bible study. When five teenage participants of her class, all of whom had dropped out of school, expressed a desire to get their high school diplomas, Lynda established a GED program. In another instance, after learning that three children, ages 7, 8, and 9, had never attended school, Lynda was instrumental in immediately enrolling them in school.

In her efforts to assist young people, Lynda has traveled all over the District. Her unyielding commitment to the city's youth keeps her motivated. She is a truly selfless individual who has invested her time, energy, and money for the betterment of the lives of our struggling young people.

Lynda Mosley is most deserving of the Mayor's Community Service Award. Congratulations, Lynda, and thank you for all that you do.



Lynda Mosley

## New DMV Inspection Station

On August 29, I was thrilled to climb onto a bulldozer to start the demolition of an old, unused vehicle inspection station on West Virginia Avenue in northeast Washington. Soon, construction of a second District of Columbia auto inspection station will begin on this spot.

The new \$7.2 million inspection station will have five inspection lanes, increasing the citywide inspection capacity by 60 percent. The new facility is part of my vision for a better Department of Motor Vehicles—one that serves citizens in a speedy and effective manner.

The existing Southwest Inspection Station has the same number of lanes that were available to the residents of the District when we had two stations. However, with our city's increased population and vehicle ownerships, we realized that we had to expand capacity.

The new station will accommodate the federal and District government vehicles that the District is now mandated to inspect. This mandate covers all motor vehicles registered in the District, including federal government fleets, DC government fleet vehicles, Metrobuses, school buses, and vehicles-for-hire.

Our Department of Transportation is the project manager for the \$7.2 million contract. It is fully funded by the Federal Highway Administration.

In short, we are continuing our commitment to serve District residents better at the DMV. When this new station opens in July 2003 or sooner, it will increase the total inspection lanes in the District of Columbia from eight to 13. That's five more lanes than the city has ever had.

As we await our new station, we continue to encourage our senior citizens and handicapped drivers to take advantage of the priority that is given to them at our Southwest Inspection Station. As always, we encourage citizens to stop by the inspection station to make an appointment and help cut your wait-time.



## It's Back to School Time!

Last week, children in our city sharpened their pencils, filled their backpacks, and headed back to school for another exciting year.

I am proud to say that the District of Columbia Public Schools have made considerable progress over the past year, though our work is far from complete. The DC Board of Education and Superintendent Paul Vance took on three major tasks which reflected great vision and courage.

First, the Transforming School Initiative (T-14) is an effort to turn around our lowest-performing schools, which includes reconstituting the 14 targeted schools and providing them with additional resources. Second, a massive child immunization campaign requires all school-aged children to be properly immunized before returning to school. And third, the Central Office Transformation is an initiative to reorganize central administration to better support the goals and missions of the system.

As Mayor, I have strongly supported bold and courageous endeavors and look forward to continuing to work with the schools to reach our goals. Meanwhile, I also look forward to tackling new and exciting issues next school year, including:

- **Special Education** – Recognizing that our current special education program forces many children to receive education outside of their neighborhoods, I created an emergency task force consisting of representatives from my administration, the DC Council, the school system, parents, and others to implement a cost-saving reform plan.
- **Teacher Quality** – I have supported a 20 percent pay increase for teachers over the next three years. I would also like to provide additional housing incentives to attract the best and brightest teachers to live in the District.
- **Family Literacy** – My Deputy Mayor for Children, Families, Youth and Elders, Carolyn Graham, has been working to target literacy resources to helping parents help their children succeed in school.

Over the next year I will work with the school leadership, the community, members of my administration, and parents to ensure every child has a “bright start” and enters school ready to learn and that every child receives a quality education based on sound standards of educational accountability.

## DC's New Youth Mayor

It is with great pleasure that I announce Michael Clark as the District's new Youth Mayor.

Michael, a 16-year old junior at Hyde Leadership Public Charter School, won this year's election with a solid majority of 92 votes from 157 young voters. Standing on the belief that young people are equally responsible as adults for making choices for the city, Michael Clark captured the admiration and support of his fellow students and participants in the Youth Government program.

Youth Mayor Clark, who has an active interest in government, said he ran in this year's election because he feels, “The voice of the youth is not heard in the government.” He plans to bridge the gap between young people and adults who often make decisions for them but not with them.

With his cabinet, headed by Deputy Youth Mayor Anthony Robeson, Michael plans to stimulate youth participation in city government. He seeks an answer from the city's younger generation to the question: “Do you care about yourself and the city you're making for yourself?”

As Youth Mayor, Michael will be responsible for consolidating the broad concerns of his peers into presentable points to be addressed by city officials. In addition, Michael will work with the DC Council and me to organize recreational activities that are designed to introduce young people to city officials. Michael's first event is a high school tour to be launched shortly after Labor Day that will give student representatives a chance to speak with the Youth Mayor and address their school's particular concerns.

I share the belief with Youth Mayor Clark that young people are a vital part of our city because they are citizens just as adults are. Working closely with young people is essential to our government's success because youths who are active in government grow up to be adults active in their government and communities. I look forward to working with Youth Mayor Clark and supporting his plans for the youth of the District.



## DC Remembers .....One Year Ago



## Community News

- District, AFL/CIO Open New One-Stop Career Center
- Mayor Williams Urges Parents To Get Their Children Immunized
- Mayor Williams Announces That Target Is Coming To The District

[Click here](#) to view releases.



# Citywide Memorial Events

- 09/04 to 09/25** **America Under Attack: September 11, 2001**  
The Newseum and the DC Public Library  
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library  
9th and G Streets, NW  
An exhibit of newspaper front pages from around the world will hang in the windows of the DC Public Library.
- 09/07 to 09/13** **Public Safety Appreciation Week**  
The District of Columbia will declare a public safety appreciation week, beginning September 7, 2002, to honor and celebrate its first-responders. The community of Washington will recognize and thank police, firefighters, and emergency medical workers throughout the city. A list of suggestions and/or needs for each station will be available for residents, community groups, organizations, and/or businesses. Some of the ideas may include cleaning a bunkroom, donating supplies, painting the lounge, sewing a quilt, and making thank-you cards to express gratitude to our first responders for protecting our neighborhoods.
- 09/07 to 11/11** **Here is New York: A Democracy of Photographs**  
Corcoran Gallery of Art  
500 17th Street, NW  
10 am-5 pm daily, except Tuesday; Thursday evenings.  
The exhibit features photographs of the Pentagon, World Trade Center, and Flight 193 taken in Arlington, VA, Washington, DC, New York City, and Pennsylvania.
- 09/11** **"Beam of Hope" Light Vigil**  
Freedom Plaza  
Pennsylvania Avenue  
Between 13th and 14th Streets, NW  
7:15-8 pm  
The Government of the District Columbia will remember and honor those lost September 11, 2001, in a candlelight vigil. District residents and visitors are encouraged to bring a "beam of hope" (penlight, flashlight, glowsticks or candles).
- 09/11** **Remembrance and Readiness Program**  
DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation and DC Department of Health  
True Reformer Building  
1200 U Street, NW  
6-9 pm  
Reception 6-7 pm  
This community event will honor acts of courage by local residents, youths, and businesses. The evening will also include a discussion on emergency preparedness.
- 09/11 to 09/14** **September 11 Quilt Project**  
Memorial Tree Park  
US Capitol Lawn  
10 am-5 pm  
For more information, please visit [www.september11quiltproject.org](http://www.september11quiltproject.org)  
Come walk through the display on the Capitol Lawn and share in this lasting celebration of the beauty, spirit and foundation of America. At 10 am on September 11, the DC Fire Department will roll out the stripes in a ceremony while a local children's choir sings our national anthem.
- 09/13 to 11/11** **The City of Trees - 9/11 Remembrance**  
Memorial Tree Grove Planning Group and Neighborhood Action  
Kingman Island Bridge  
2900 block of Benning Road, NE  
(Right turn immediately after Oklahoma Avenue, across from Langston Golf Course)  
10-11 am  
The grove will provide a lasting tribute to September 11, 2001. This memorial-planting site will honor the lives lost and provide a location for residents and visitors to reflect. The event will serve as a kickoff for the development project.

*Click [here](#) to view the Mayor's daily schedule.*

